

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 026935

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 26935 SENT ACTION GENEVA NATO, INFO
ALL NATO CAPS USNMR SHAPE USCINCEUR USLOSACLANT USDOCOSOUTH
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QUOTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 026935

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:CSCE, PFOR, XG, PARM

SUBJECT: CSCE: CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES: ALLIED
TACTICS IN FACE OF CONTINUED SOVIET INFLEXIBILITY

REF: GENEVA 684

HOLD FOR OPENING OF BUSINESS

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

1. WE ENDORSE CAUTIOUS LINE DELEGATION FOLLOWED IN
FEBRUARY 3-4 NATO CAUCUS SESSION. ALTHOUGH WE ARE CON-
SIDERING THE NINE'S IDEA OF LINKING FIRST READING OF
PRINCIPLES TO FORWARD MOVEMENT ON CBMS, WE HAVE NOT YET
REACHED ANY CONCLUSION AS TO ITS TACTICAL DESIRABILITY
SINCE, AS POINTED OUT REFTEL, IT COULD BACKFIRE. WE WOULD
HAVE WISHED IN ANY CASE THAT THE NINE HAD DISCUSSED IDEA
MORE FULLY WITH OTHER ALLIES BEFORE PRESENTING LINKAGE CON-
CEPT BILATERALLY TO SOVIETS, THUS GIVING RISE TO A SITUATION
WHERE MOSCOW CAN EASILY DRAW INFERENCE THAT NINE MAY NOT BE
WORKING IN TANDEM ON CBMS WITH OTHER ALLIES.

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2. WHILE RECOGNIZING SLOW RATE OF PROGRESS ON CBMS, WE DOUBT, ON BALANCE, THE WISDOM OF ALLIES PRESSING SOVIETS HARD ON THESE ISSUES SO SOON AFTER RESUMPTION OF GENEVA TALKS. RATHER WE BELIEVE IT PREFERABLE FOR NOW TO CONTINUE PATIENT EFFORTS TO MOVE SOVIETS TOWARD ACCEPTABLE CBMS CRITERIA, WHILE RESERVING MORE FORCEFUL APPROACHES UNTIL

ATER IF MOSCOW CONTINUES TO REFUSE TO BUDGE. THEREFORE, WE DO NOT RPT NOT FAVOR COORDINATED STATEMENT BY NATO SPOKESMAN FOLLOWING FEBRUARY 7 NAC ON CBMS OR STATEMENT ON NEED FOR "PARALLELISM" IN CSCE WORK. WE BELIEVE ALLIES SHOULD MAINTAIN STEADY LOW-KEY DIPLOMATIC, RATHER THAN PUBLIC, PRESSURES ON SOVIETS FOR CBM PROGRESS. KISSINGER

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